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EXAMINER

SCHEIBEL, ROBERT C

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/823,764	Applicant(s) KHOURY ET AL.	
	Examiner ROBERT C. SCHEIBEL	Art Unit 2419	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 November 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

- Examiner acknowledges receipt of Applicant's Amendment filed 11/6/2008.
- Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-9, 13-15, 17, 19-20, 24, 27-28, and 30 are currently amended.
- New claims 33-36 have been added.
- Claims 1-36 are currently pending.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 11/6/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

On pages 9-10, in "A. Summary of this Amendment", Applicant summarizes the claim amendments and arguments made in the present amendment. This summary appears to be accurate.

On pages 10-12, in "B. Patentability of the Claims", Applicant begins by summarizing the rejections of the claims in the first paragraph. In the second paragraph, Applicant asserts that Widegren refers to a mobile terminal (quoting the abstract) and that as such, Widegren can not disclose the limitations relating to stationary equipment. However, in the previous rejection, the mobile terminal was not mapped to either the node or the stationary equipment. Similarly, in the rejection below (modified due to the change in claim scope) does not rely on the mobile terminal to disclose either the node or the stationary equipment of the claim language. Rather, the stationary devices 14 and 16 of Figure 19 disclose these two claim elements.

In the next paragraph, Applicant indicates the Office Action may be using the mobile station to disclose the node of the claim language and proposes that the claim amendments

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prevent a similar interpretation in which Widegren anticipates the independent claims. The claim limitations specify that the node of the claim language is between the stationary equipment unit and an external network which offers media services. However, as indicated above, the mobile station is not relied upon to teach any limitations of the independent claims. The present claim language is extremely broad and as such, the node and the stationary equipment unit are mapped to the PDN Access Point 14 and the Multimedia System 16, respectively. This clearly reads on the current claim language.

In the rest of this section, Applicant describes the new claims and asserts that these claims are patentable. These claims are addressed below with respect to the prior art of record.

While there are certainly differences between the invention of the present application as detailed in the specification, the present claim language is extremely broad and is anticipated at least by Widegren. Examiner recommends that Applicant amend the claim language to better distinguish the present invention from the prior art.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 30 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- Claim 30 currently depends from claim 40 which doesn't exist. The claim must be amended to depend from a valid claim number. For the present Office Action, the claim will be treated as depending from claim 24 for examination purposes.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims **1-8, 10, 12-19, 21, 23-27, 30-31, and 33-36** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren.

Regarding claim **1**, Widegren discloses a node (PDN Access Point 14 of Figure 19, for example) of a communications network which dynamically establishes one or more access bearers (the access bearers (flows/connection) between Access Point 14 and Multimedia System 16 shown in Figure 19) to a stationary equipment unit (Multimedia System 16 of Figure 19, for example) which is connected to the node by an essentially fixed location physical link (the PDN 18 is a fixed location physical link between these two devices), the node being configured so that a media service (the service(s) which use(s) the media streams of Figure 19) offered by one or more external networks (at least the RAN 12 of Figure 19, for example) can be provided through the node to the stationary equipment (as indicated clearly in Figure 19, the service is provided through the node (Access Point 14) to the stationary equipment (Multimedia System 16)).

Regarding claim **2**, Widegren discloses a node (PDN Access Point 14 of Figure 19, for example) of a communications network which dynamically establishes one or more access

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bearers (the access bearers (flows/connection) between Access Point 14 and Multimedia System 16 shown in Figure 19) to a stationary equipment unit (Multimedia System 16 of Figure 19, for example) which is connected to the node by an essentially fixed location physical link (the PDN 18 is a fixed location physical link between these two devices), differing ones of the multiple access bearers being configured for utilization by differing types of media services (as indicated throughout (see paragraph 0106, for example which describes each media flow “and it’s corresponding quality of service requirements”) the multiple media flows are of different types – at a minimum, they include different quality of service requirements; see also paragraph 0004 which describes some of the services), the node being configured so that a media service (the service(s) which use(s) the media streams of Figure 19) offered by one or more external networks (at least the RAN 12 of Figure 19, for example) can be provided through the node to the stationary equipment (as indicated clearly in Figure 19, the service is provided through the node (Access Point 14) to the stationary equipment (Multimedia System 16)).

Regarding claim 4, Widegren discloses a node (PDN Access Point 14 of Figure 19, for example) of a communications network which dynamically establishes one or more access bearers (the access bearers (flows/connection) between Access Point 14 and Multimedia System 16 shown in Figure 19) to a stationary equipment unit (Multimedia System 16 of Figure 19, for example) which is connected to the node by an essentially fixed location physical link (the PDN 18 is a fixed location physical link between these two devices), the access bearers providing different types of services to the stationary equipment unit (as indicated throughout (see paragraph 0106, for example which describes each media flow “and it’s corresponding quality of

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service requirements”) the multiple media flows are of different types – at a minimum, they include different quality of service requirements; see also paragraph 0004 which describes some of the services), the different types of services including one of voice services, video services, and data traffic services (see paragraph 0004 which describes these services as some of those provided in the network), the node being configured so that a media service (the service(s) which use(s) the media streams of Figure 19) offered by one or more external networks (at least the RAN 12 of Figure 19, for example) can be provided through the node to the stationary equipment (as indicated clearly in Figure 19, the service is provided through the node (Access Point 14) to the stationary equipment (Multimedia System 16)).

Regarding claim 5, Widegren discloses a node of a communications network (PDN Access Point 14 of Figure 19, for example) comprising:

a port by which the node is connectable by an essentially fixed location physical link to a stationary equipment unit (the port which connects to the PDN 18; the PDN 18 is a fixed location physical link between these two devices);

a connection control unit which dynamically establishes one or more access bearers for providing services to the stationary equipment unit (element 46 of Figure 19, for example, which establishes the bearers between the devices);

a bearer service processing unit which maps the access bearers into packets of a transport protocol of the essentially fixed location physical link (see paragraph 0036 on page 4, for example);

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the node being configured so that a media service (the service(s) which use(s) the media streams of Figure 19) offered by one or more external networks (at least the RAN 12 of Figure 19, for example) can be provided through the node to the stationary equipment (as indicated clearly in Figure 19, the service is provided through the node (Access Point 14) to the stationary equipment (Multimedia System 16)).

Regarding claim **14**, Widegren discloses a method of operating a communications network comprising:

connecting a stationary equipment unit (Multimedia System 16 of Figure 19, for example) to an access interface node (PDN Access Point 14 of Figure 19, for example) by an essentially fixed location physical link (the PDN 18 is a fixed location physical link between these two devices);

dynamically establishing one or more access bearers (the access bearers (flows/connection) between Access Point 14 and Multimedia System 16 shown in Figure 19) for providing a service offered by an external network (at least the RAN 12 of Figure 19, for example) through the node and on the one or more access bearers to the stationary equipment unit on the essentially fixed location physical link (as indicated clearly in Figure 19, the service is provided through the node (Access Point 14) to the stationary equipment (Multimedia System 16));

mapping the access bearers into packets of a transport protocol of the essentially fixed location physical link (see paragraph 0036 on page 4, for example).

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Regarding claim **15**, Widegren discloses a method of operating a communications network comprising:

connecting a stationary equipment unit (Multimedia System 16 of Figure 19, for example) to an access interface node (PDN Access Point 14 of Figure 19, for example) by an essentially fixed location physical link (the PDN 18 is a fixed location physical link between these two devices);

dynamically establishing one or more access bearers (the access bearers (flows/connection) between Access Point 14 and Multimedia System 16 shown in Figure 19) for providing differing types of services offered by one or more external networks through the node and on the one or more access bearers to the stationary equipment unit on the essentially fixed location physical link (see paragraph 0004 which describes these services as some of those provided in the network), differing ones of the multiple access bearers being configured for utilization by the differing types of media services (as indicated throughout (see paragraph 0106, for example which describes each media flow “and it’s corresponding quality of service requirements”) the multiple media flows are of different types – at a minimum, they include different quality of service requirements; see also paragraph 0004 which describes some of the services);

mapping the access bearers into packets of a transport protocol of the essentially fixed location physical link (see paragraph 0036 on page 4, for example).

Regarding claim **17**, Widegren discloses a method of operating a communications network comprising:

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connecting a stationary equipment unit (Multimedia System 16 of Figure 19, for example) to an access interface node (PDN Access Point 14 of Figure 19, for example) by an essentially fixed location physical link (the PDN 18 is a fixed location physical link between these two devices);

dynamically establishing one or more access bearers (the access bearers (flows/connection) between Access Point 14 and Multimedia System 16 shown in Figure 19) for providing differing types of services offered by one or more external networks (at least the RAN 12 of Figure 19, for example) through the node and on the one or more access bearers to the stationary equipment unit on the essentially fixed location physical link (as indicated clearly in Figure 19, the service is provided through the node (Access Point 14) to the stationary equipment (Multimedia System 16)), the access bearers providing the different types of services to the stationary equipment unit (as indicated throughout (see paragraph 0106, for example which describes each media flow “and it’s corresponding quality of service requirements”) the multiple media flows are of different types – at a minimum, they include different quality of service requirements; see also paragraph 0004 which describes some of the services), the different types of services including one of voice services, video services, and data traffic services (see paragraph 0004 which describes these services as some of those provided in the network);

mapping the plural access bearers into packets of a transport protocol of the essentially fixed location physical link (see paragraph 0036 on page 4, for example).

Regarding claim **24**, Widegren discloses a stationary equipment unit comprising:

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means for forming a physical connection to a network by a non-radio fixed position physical link (the PDN 18 between Access Point 14 and Multimedia System 16 in Figure 19) ;

means for executing plural media services offered by one or more external networks through a node of the network (the one or more external networks are disclosed at least by the RAN 12 of Figure 19; the plural media services are offered over the various media flows shown in Figure 19 and are described in paragraphs 0004 and paragraph 0106 which indicates that the flows each have “corresponding quality of service requirements”);

a protocol stack (the IP protocol stack discussed throughout; see paragraph 0004, for example) which, for the plural media services, utilizes dynamically established access bearers which are mapped into packets of a transport protocol of the essentially fixed location physical link (see paragraph 0036 on page 4, for example, which describes mapping the packets to various bearer services).

Regarding claim **3**, Widegren discloses the additional limitation that the one or more access bearers carry connections for plural services of its associated type of media service (see the multiple media flows of Figure 19 and described in paragraphs 0105 and 0106 on page 8).

Regarding claim **6**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the node established multiple simultaneous access bearers (see the multiple media flows of Figure 19 and described in paragraphs 0105 and 0106 on page 8).

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Regarding claim **7**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the multiple access bearers do not necessarily have a same bandwidth and a same quality of service capabilities (see paragraph 0106, for example, which indicates that each media flow has “it’s corresponding quality of service requirements”; see also paragraphs 0004 and 0122).

Regarding claim **8**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the multiple access bearers do not have a same bandwidth and a same quality of service capabilities (see paragraph 0106, for example, which indicates that each media flow has “it’s corresponding quality of service requirements”; see also paragraphs 0004 and 0122).

Regarding claim **10**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the node establishes access bearers for providing different types of services to the stationary equipment unit, the different types of services including one of voice services, video services, and data traffic services (see paragraph 0004 which describes these services as some of those provided in the network).

Regarding claim **12**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the packets of the transport protocol are one of Internet Transport Protocol (IP) packets and Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) packets (this is disclosed throughout; see paragraphs 0003, 0004, and 0104, for example.)

Regarding claim **13**, Widegren discloses the limitation of carrying, on at least one of the multiple access bearers, connections for plural services of its associated type of media service (see paragraph 0036 on page 4, for example).

Regarding claim **16**, Widegren discloses the additional limitation that the one or more access bearers carry connections for plural services of its associated type of media service (see the multiple media flows of Figure 19 and described in paragraphs 0105 and 0106 on page 8).

Regarding claim **18**, Widegren discloses the limitation of establishing multiple simultaneous access bearers to the stationary equipment unit (see the multiple media flows of Figure 19 and described in paragraphs 0105 and 0106 on page 8).

Regarding claim **19**, Widegren discloses the limitation of configuring the multiple simultaneous access bearers to have different bandwidths and different quality of service capabilities (see paragraph 0106, for example, which indicates that each media flow has “it’s corresponding quality of service requirements”; see also paragraphs 0004 and 0122).

Regarding claim **21**, Widegren discloses the limitation of establishing access bearers for providing different types of services to the stationary equipment unit, the different types of services including one of a voice service, a video service, and a data traffic service (see paragraph 0004 which describes these services as some of those provided in the network).

Regarding claim **23**, Widegren discloses the limitation of using as the packets of the transport protocol one of Internet Transport Protocol (IP) packets and Asynchronous Transfer

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Mode (ATM) packets (this is disclosed throughout; see paragraphs 0003, 0004, and 0104, for example.)

Regarding claim **25**, Widegren discloses the limitation that differing ones of multiple access bearers are configured for utilization by differing types of media services (as indicated throughout (see paragraph 0106, for example which describes each media flow “and it’s corresponding quality of service requirements”) the multiple media flows are of different types – at a minimum, they include different quality of service requirements; see also paragraph 0004 which describes some of the services).

Regarding claim **26**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the different types of services including one of voice services, video services, and data traffic services (see paragraph 0004 which describes these services as some of those provided in the network).

Regarding claim **27**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the multiple access bearers do not necessarily have a same bandwidth and a same quality of service capabilities (see paragraph 0106, for example, which indicates that each media flow has “it’s corresponding quality of service requirements”; see also paragraphs 0004 and 0122).

Regarding claim **30**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the packets of the transport protocol are one of Internet Transport Protocol (IP) packets and Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) packets (this is disclosed throughout; see paragraphs 0003, 0004, and 0104, for example.)

Regarding claim **31**, Widegren discloses the limitation of means for providing mobile termination across a radio interface (see paragraph 0103 on page 8, for example which indicates that “remote host 20 can be a fixed or wireless device”).

Regarding claim **33**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the stationary equipment unit comprises a user terminal through which a user can interface using an input device (the Multimedia System 16 of Figure 19 is a user terminal as it provides a user with the ability to interface to it via an input device (remote terminal 20)).

Regarding claim **34**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the node is configured to set up a connection on the one or more access bearers carried by the fixed location physical link (the setup of the access bearers between the Access Point and the Multimedia System is performed using the session signaling and controlled in part by the Access Network Bearer Control block 46 and the Session Control and Policy Control block 48 of Figure 19) by using transport channel information in lieu of radio resource information (see Figure 18; the radio resource information (transmitted in the packet access bearer; see steps 32-35) is used to determine the transport channel information (the session, media, and policy-related information in step 38); the transport channel information is thus derived from the radio resource information and thus used in lieu of it) in a message which is a modification of a radio access network protocol message (as the information comes from the radio interface via the PAB, the data exchanged with the Multimedia System is a modification of the data (transmitted in messages) from the radio interface).

Regarding claim **35**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the radio access network protocol message is a message that would be sent over a radio interface in a radio access network (as indicated in the rejection of claim 34 above, the radio access network protocol message is the information sent on the packet access bearer (PAB) which is sent over a radio access network (RAN 12)).

Regarding claim **36**, Widegren discloses the limitation that the apparatus further comprises a protocol stack (the IP protocol stack disclosed throughout; consider paragraphs 0003 and 0004, for example) which, for the plural media services (the services feeding the media streams in Figure 19), utilizes dynamically established access bearers (the bearers between devices 14 and 16 are dynamically established as indicated above) which are mapped into packets of a transport protocol of the essentially fixed location physical link (see paragraph 0036).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various

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claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7. Claim **32** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0103009 to Sato.

Regarding claim 32, Widegren discloses the limitations of parent claim 24 as indicated above. However, Widegren does not disclose expressly the limitation of claim 32 of further comprising a USIM card. However, USIM cards are well known in the art. For example, consider Sato, which discloses the use of a USIM card throughout (see the abstract for example).

Widegren and Sato are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of data communications. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Widegren to further use a USIM card to enable multiple different users to use the apparatus. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide authentication information for the user of the apparatus and thus provide greater system security. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Sato with Widegren for the benefit of improved security to obtain the invention as specified in claim 32.

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8. Claims **9, 20, and 28** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren in view of WO 03/003767 to Soininen et al.

Regarding claims **9, 20, and 28**, Widegren discloses the limitations of parent claims 6, 18, and 25, respectively, as indicated in the rejection above. Widegren does not disclose expressly the limitation of claims 9, 20, and 28 that the multiple simultaneous access bearers include both circuit switched access bearers and packet switched access bearers. However, Soininen discloses this limitation throughout (see the abstract as one example). Widegren and Soininen are analogous art as they are from the same field of endeavor of data communications.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use both circuit switched and packet switched bearers to connect devices 14 and 16. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide flexibility in connection allocations and to balance the utilization of bandwidth over the network as suggested in the second paragraph on page 2 of Soininen, for example. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Soininen with Widegren for the benefit of flexibility in connection allocations to obtain the invention as specified in claims 9, 20, and 28.

9. Claims **11, 22, and 29** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0062379 to Widegren in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0177446 to Bugeja et al.

Regarding claims **11, 22, and 29**, Widegren discloses the limitations of the parent claims, as indicated in the rejection above. Widegren does not disclose expressly the limitation of claims

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11, 22, and 29 that the essentially fixed location physical link is one of the following: (1) a wire line link; (2) an optical link; (3) a radio link of a radio access network which does not involve mobility management. However, Bugeja discloses this limitation in paragraph 0006 on page 1, for example. Widegren and Bugeja are analogous art as they are from the same field of endeavor of data communications.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to specify that the PDN 18 of Widegren is one of a wire line link, and optical link or a wireless link not involving mobility management as taught by Bugeja. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide flexibility in the type of connection required for connecting the devices 14 and 16 of Widegren. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Soininen with Widegren for the benefit of flexibility in connection options to obtain the invention as specified in claims 11, 22, and 29.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

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CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT C. SCHEIBEL whose telephone number is 571-272-3169. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wing F. Chan can be reached on 571-272-7493. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ROBERT C. SCHEIBEL
Examiner
Art Unit 2419

/R. C. S./
Examiner, Art Unit 2419

/Wing F. Chan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2419
1/21/09